

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LA PAZ 02016 172201Z
ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 EB-08 SS-15 INR-07 CIAE-00
NSAE-00 L-03 SYE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 JUSE-00 /045 W
-----172207Z 092829 /56

O R 172155Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
TO FBI WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4520
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

C O N F I D E N T I A L LA PAZ 2016

BUENOS AIRES FOR LEGAL ATTACHE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ASEC
SUBJ: INFORMATION RE POSSIBLE FRAUD

1. EMBASSY WISHES PASS FOLLOWING INFORMATION FBI FOR ACTION AS
IT THINKS BEST. EMBASSY CANNOT VOUCH FOR ACCURACY THIS INFO.

2. ON AFTERNOON MARCH 17, JORGE ESPANA-SMITH, A BOLIVIAN NATIONAL
AND UNTIL JANUARY 1977 A SENIOR OFFICIAL IN THE MINISTRY OF THE
INTERIOR, CALLED UPON AN EMBASSY OFFICER WITH WHOM HE IS ACQU-
AINTED. ESPANA-SMITH RELATED A STORY OF HIS BUSINESS DEALINGS
WITH COMPANY KNOWN AS LONDON INVESTORS LTD WHICH HAS OFFICE IN NEW
YORK CITY. DEAL INVOLVES PROSPECTIVE LOAN FOR \$1,250,000.

3. ESPANA-SMITH ALLEGES THAT COMPANY IS FRAUDULENTLY TRYING TO
DEFRAUD HIM AND PARTNER (ROBERTO SUAREZ) OF AT LEAST \$100,000
THROUGH NON-EXISTENT COMMONWEALTH BANK AND ITS SUBSIDIARY COMMERCE
EXCHANGE BANK & TRUST OF MONACO. DETAILS OF CONVERSATION CAN BE
TRANSMITTED BY POUCH IF BUREAU WISHES, HOWEVER ESPANA-SMITH ASKED
THAT EMBASSY GIVE HIM NAME OF APPROPRIATE FBI AGENT IN MIAMI AREA
THAT HIS PARTNER (SUAREZ) COULD CONTACT. EMBOFF INFORMED HIM THAT
WE HAVE NO LIST OF FBI PERSONNEL AND BEST HE COULD DO WAS TO
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INFORM FBI HEADQUARTERS AND ASK THEM TO PASS ON INFO TO MIAMI
AREA OFFICE. HE AGREED TO THIS.

4. ESPANA-SMITH STATED THAT HE WOULD TELEPHONE SUAREZ WHO HE SAYS
IS STAYING AT LIDO HOTEL IN MIAMI AND TELL HIM TO GO TO LOCAL FBI
OFFICE (OR CALL) AT 1000 MARCH 18 TO RELATE STORY. ACCORDING TO
ESPANA-SMITH, SUAREZ IS TO HAVE A MEETING WITH REP OF LONDON

INVESTORS LTD AT 1700, FRIDAY, MARCH 18 TO CLOSE DEAL. HE WISHES
FBI INFORMED OF ILLEGALITIES HE ALLEGES HAVE OCCURRED RELATING TO
FRAUD AND ILLEGAL USE OF US TELEGRAPH AND MAILS. EMBASSY HAS NO
WAY OF VERIFYING ANY ASPECT OF HIS STORY.

5. FYI: JORGE ESPANA-SMITH IS ONE OF SUBJECTS OF LETTER TO
AMBASSADOR FROM BUENOS AIRES LEGAL ATTACHE DATED FEB 23, 1977
LISTING HIM AS WANTED BY FBI. HE WAS UNTIL RECENTLY EXECUTIVE
SECRETARY OF BOLIVIAN MINISTRY OF INTERIOR.
STEDMAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LAPAZ02016
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770092-0318
Format: TEL
From: LA PAZ
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770352/aaaabsvu.tel
Line Count: 72
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Litigation History:
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Office: ACTION SY
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
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Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3085690
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INFORMATION RE POSSIBLE FRAUD
TAGS: ASEC
To: FBI
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c4b909b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
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